

**From:** Goers, Ronald  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/2/02 3:04pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ Folks,

I cannot believe that this silly case has gotten as far as it has. Janet Reno should be hog-tied and whipped with wet spaghetti for her part in the gross mishandling of this case. If the complaint had been brought on by consumers, I might think differently, but let's face it; this case was concocted by Microsoft's competitors. Unfortunately, the folks at SUN Microsystems, and the rest of those who complained are a whiney lot. Too bad they have inferior platforms and software that prevent them from effectively competing in a free marketplace. I wonder why they blame their inadequacies on Microsoft? Maybe instead of wasting money on slick lawyers, they could be spending their time and money inventing something people will want to buy and use. It strikes me as odd that on one hand Microsoft is said to be a monopoly, but on the other hand Time Warner isn't... doesn't that seem strange to you also??? (Think "having your cake, and eating it too") And, why isn't Apple under fire? They have both a hardware and software monopoly going!

This case reminds me of a recent Nature program I was watching. The setting was an Alaskan river, where there were several grizzly bears fishing for king salmon. There was one big old male bear who filled his belly by stealing fish from all the other bears. The narrator of the program noted that this particular bear had used this method of "fishing" for many years.

Those who would have Microsoft punished for advancing technology in a way no other company has been able to do should be ashamed of themselves. I assure you had the shoe been on the other foot, those who brought this suit to the DOJ would have failed to see any wrongdoing in their own practices. And rightly so, since there is no law against creating technology (in this case, an OS) which drove our economy to levels of prosperity never before imagined. Take away Microsoft, and hundreds of thousands of jobs would not exist - and that just from those who write software and build hardware based on MS innovation. Add to that, those who rely on computers running a Microsoft OS to run a business... and to that those who actually work for Microsoft... and those who run MS computers at home... and Palm devices which rely on MS platforms for synchronizing... and it's not hard to see the negative impact it would have on our economy. The Microsoft Operating Systems are one of the key reasons this country has seen such great prosperity in recent years.

Lastly, lest anyone gets the idea I work for (or draw any sort of income) from Microsoft - I don't. In fact, I don't even like their browser! I regularly use - believe it or not - Netscape 4.7!!! Still, I can't support

throwing the baby out with the bath water. Even though I don't particularly like the MS browser, nor the way it gets packaged with their OS - I accept it as part of the package. If I don't want to use the browser, I simply don't use it, and install another one in its place. Simple, isn't it? No suit, no jumping up and down crying "monopoly", no sweat!

In summary; My advise on this whole issue is to drop it completely and stop wasting taxpayer's money. If that is not an option, then I would like to see Time Warner sued by the DOJ for refusing to run cable the extra 2 miles down my street to connect it to my house. Maybe they're under the delusion that I would be using Microsoft's browser on their Time Warner "RoadRunner" network...

Warmest regards,  
ron

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